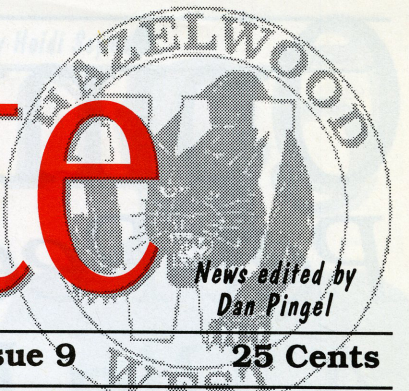


# The West Gazette



The Newspaper of Hazelwood West High School

May 16, 1997

Volume 25—Issue 9

25 Cents

## Science Whiz Goes Global

by Ryan Oakes

In over 20 years, there has been only one student from the Hazelwood School District to be finalist in an international science fair, uhhh... make that two.

On April 14, senior Laura Mayberry added her name to this exclusive list by winning the Greater St. Louis Science Fair for her biological experiment.

She is one of two students from the St. Louis area who are participating with 1200 other finalists, from 40 nations, in the International Science and Engineering Fair.

The fair is being held this

## Group to See European Culture

by Jon Hendrickson

Some students will be involved in part-time jobs this summer, while others will just be hanging around. Meanwhile, a small group of students will be going on the trip of a lifetime.

Fifteen West students and two teachers, Ms. Maria Westmoreland and Ms. Kristin Cool, will be traveling throughout Europe from June 24 to July 3.

The group will begin their trip in London, visiting sites like Big Ben, St. Paul's Cathedral, and Buckingham Palace.

They will then go across the English Channel and make their way to Paris, where they will see the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame,

week in Lexington, Kentucky

After she won the fair and a \$3,000 scholarship, Laura modestly admitted, "I was shocked. I didn't think I had a chance."

Her experiment dealt with the resistance bacteria has to various disinfectants.

In evaluating her project, Laura said that the judges kept her on her toes by firing questions at her on all types of technical data.

Laura admitted that on some of their questions, she was less than certain and responded simply by smiling and politely nodding her head.

This week, she is in Lexington,

Versailles, and the Louvre.

From there, a train will take them into Italy to see the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Florence, the Colosseum, Vatican City, the Sistine Chapel, and the Catacombs.

Ms. Westmoreland says that she and Ms. Cool started planning over a year ago.

"My friend from Francis Howell had gone, and I thought it sounded really good," said Ms. Westmoreland. "I thought, 'why shouldn't we do that here?'"

The trip, which is non-school sponsored, costs each student about \$2000. Ms. Westmoreland says that the price is a good deal because it includes airfare, meals, and hotel costs.

ton competing with other finalists. Before she left, Laura was enthusiastic about the upcoming fair.

"I'm looking forward to seeing what other finalists did in their experiments and to meeting a lot of new people."

Even if Laura doesn't win anything else, she says she is happy with just being a finalist and being able to represent her school.

The St. Louis Post Dispatch has already contacted her about a possible story

Laura plans to continue her studies in science by majoring in biology when she enrolls at Truman State University in the fall and possibly entering a career in biology



And the winner was...Laura Mayberry won the Greater St. Louis Science Fair, and now is competing at the International Science and Engineering Fair held in Lexington, Kentucky. Photo by Bo Norris

## Fund-raiser Aids Students After Fire Ruins Belongings

by Mandy Siefert

Imagine this. You're having a great dream where you're at a beach party. To your right is your significant other and to your left is a giant bonfire. Then you wake up and your night stand is the bonfire. Sound like a nightmare?

This happened to freshman Jon Hamilton and his brother, senior Lee Hamilton, on April 8. The fire started in Jon's room when a candle broke in half and landed on his computer, which turned it into an electrical fire.

All of Jon's possessions were destroyed, except his watch. "It

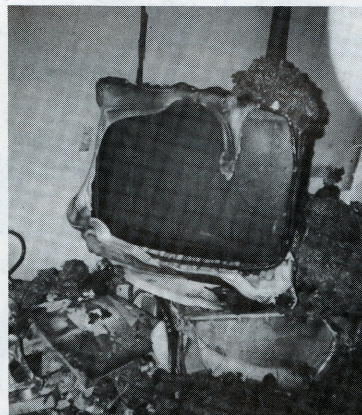
took a licking and kept on ticking," said Jon.

The Gazette staff volunteered their time to start a fund-raiser to help the Hamiltons. Although the family's insurance company is restoring most of their possessions, there are still items that can never be replaced.

For instance, there were pictures, ticket stubs, autographed T-shirts, pen pal letters, autographed programs from shows at West, and (believe it or not) a 1992 "Perot for President" yard sign.

Students guessed how many M & Ms were in a jar for 25 cents a guess. The winner of the fundraiser was junior Ron Moore, who came within three of the 3,838 M & Ms in the jar. Sophomore Joseph Sheahan, junior Melanie Hill, junior Paul Kingston, and eighth grader Jason Lawyer came close enough to win some prizes. The winners received gift certificates from Best Buy and Iggy's, and free Gazettes for the rest of the year. Ron also got free tickets to "Guys and Dolls" and the jar of M & Ms.

With the help of all the students and faculty, the Gazette staff raised \$120 for the Hamilton family



Everything Gone...A fire destroyed everything in Jon Hamilton's room on April 8. Photo by Lee Hamilton

## North Central Improvement Plan to Help Change West

by Stacey Ray

Six educators from throughout the area visited West on May 1 to evaluate the school's self improvement plan for the North Central Association.

A survey of students, faculty, and parents taken last year showed several areas of concern. Parents said they are concerned with what their child is studying. Students said they feel bored and disinterested in class, and teachers are concerned about alternative programs in their subject area. Students said their parents don't know what they're doing in school. Teachers and students said it is often too hot or too cold in this building. West had the lowest lunch ratings compared to the other secondary schools in the district.

The results of the survey were formed into five goals for West. These are Reading for Understanding, Study Skills, Responsibility Education, Grade Level Transitions, and Parent Communication. These goals make up West's improvement plan.

Principal Dr. Sarah Spalding said, "The six visiting committee members were very enthusiastic about the efforts we are making in these five important areas."

West faculty members began preparing in March 1996, by doing committee work on the improvement plan. The self study was completed in January 1997, and there was a faculty meeting on April 21 to review with the faculty the final details of the school improvement plan.

"I am very proud of the 49 staff members who worked directly on developing this plan," Dr. Spalding said. "I know that I can count on all staff, students, and parents to help make a great school even better."

## West Chosen As A+ School

by Jason Lemkemann

Do you have big dreams of graduating and going on to college but find that money is putting a damper on your dreams? Help may be in sight.

Starting with the Class of 1999, students who meet certain requirements can receive the cost of tuition, books, and fees to any public community college or vocational school.

To be an A+ student, a student must maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade-point average for three years preceding graduation

while also maintaining a 95 percent attendance record. Additionally, A+ students receive training and must complete 50 hours of tutoring or mentoring.

The goals of the program are to have all students graduate, to offer a curriculum in accordance with the state "Show Me Standards" program, and to prepare the student for post-secondary education or work.

McCluer North and Riverview are the only other high schools participating in the program in this area.

## What's News?

### Senior Class 'Fun Day' Planned

Rest. Relax. Do nothing. No, this is not a typical day for a senior, no matter how much like it seems to be. May 27 will be a fun-filled day for the Class of '97.

They can flip, spin, and feel like an astronaut in a gyroscope on Senior Activity Day.

The day will begin with breakfast at 8:15 a.m. There will be a softball game between the seniors and the Hazelwood Police Department. There will also be volleyball and frisbee games.

If you're not into any of the activities provided, you can always just sit back and catch some rays. A variety of food and drinks will be available during the day.

Mr. Tom Bennett and Mrs. Andrea Taylor planned the day.

"I hope that Senior Activity Day will be a fond memory for the Class of 1997," said Mr. Bennett.

by Erin Oliver

### Scholarships Awarded by PTA

Ah yes, springtime. Flowers grow, the air warms, and the aca-

demically superior are rewarded with \$1000 by the Hazelwood PTA. On April 29, 27 West seniors were honored. They are Jodi Banocy, Daniel Bradley, David Bradley, Grant Edwards, Kara Gentry, Brent Goble, Jeremy Gram, Colin Hall, Jonathan Hendrickson, John Huebbe, Mark Huebbe, Thomas Johnson, Bridget Madigan, Thomas O'Brien, Dana Pelot, Daniel Pingel, Douglas Reside, Steve Schwenke, Heidi Seymour, Robert Sherron, Rhiannon Smith, Eric Struckhoff, and Jerry Valley. The Judith Huss scholarship went to Michelle Coleman, the Althea Picou memorial scholarship to Brandy DeRouen, the Francis Huss schol-

arship to Laura Mayberry, and the Thomas J. Lawson scholarship to Christine Moulder.

"(The scholarship) was definitely a great help," said Grant Edwards. "I'd like to thank those who gave it to me with sincere gratitude."

by Lee Hamilton

### West Musicians Go to Columbia

The halls are alive with the sound of music. No pun intended, but several soloists and small ensembles proved that it was true when they competed at the state Solo and Ensemble Festival.

Five groups from West went to state at the University of Mis-

souri-Columbia on May 3.

A percussion group, with seniors Tony Wolk and Maurice Forest, junior Bob Madigan, sophomores Casey Dikkers and Joe Thomann, and freshmen Ryan Maclin and Pat Hughes, received a III rating. Senior Laura Mayberry on flute and senior Dan Pingel with a tenor solo both received II ratings. Junior Alicia Bell on flute and a double quartet, with seniors Tiffany Whitaker, Susan Gilbert, Tony Wolk, Dan Pingel, and Kelly McCullough, juniors Vince Chandler and Jessica Smith, and sophomore Chris Pingel, received I ratings.

by Dan Pingel



# Opinions

## Pet Peeves

### A Big Deal

by Christie Johnson & Mindy Johnston

Inquiring minds want to know we are here to clear up a few problems we feel the school is in need of solving.

Academic awards are given at the end of each school year to recognize outstanding students. The problem is, the awards go to the same few students in all the areas every year and every year it gets harder to sit through the awards. The stage is full of chairs, but only 10 or 15 are full at the end.

Past award winner senior Brandy DeRouen said, "It might be harder for a C student to improve to a B or an A than for a straight A student to maintain grades. Why not give recognition and a sense of accomplishment to those average, yet improving students."

We feel that a student should only be able to receive one award so that other students can be rec-

ognized for their achievements.

Public displays of affection in the halls—get a room. What more can we say There is a time and a place for everything and school is neither the time nor the place. An occasional kiss or holding hands is acceptable, but no one wants to see you make out in the hall every day in front of your locker. School is a place for learning, not a hotel room. So please, if you are one who falls in this category, try to consider the feelings of your fellow classmates.

Kudos to the juniors for arranging Prom at a hotel and not at Pipefitters. In our opinion, the only problem is it being held on a Friday. When we asked building principal Dr. Sarah Spalding why Prom is always held on a Friday, she said that hotels are booked for weddings and parties on Saturdays and traditionally Prom has always

## Schools Should Fear Day the Music Dies

by Jesse Robertson

You know, I can't remember when I started to appreciate music as much as I do. I just always have. I was brought up to have a deep root in the arts, and I can't imagine my life without them. That's why this story is kind of personal to me. I was one of the millions of kids that chose to pick up a guitar or trumpet instead of a soccer ball or football. But now these kids are being robbed of this vital opportunity as across the country, schools' music and fine arts programs are being cut, not only in funds, but in enrollment.

Music programs that for years have allowed kids to discover that music is a way of life, are in serious danger. With pushes to reduce the deficit and balance the budget from the federal and state government, funding for education is under fire. And of course, with music programs being at the bottom of the educational food chain, they're the first to go.

This whacked out education pyramid is amazing since studies show that students enrolled in any kind of music class tend to earn better grades in basic subjects such as math and English. If only someone would have explained this to the Republicans in Congress who cut the National Endowment for the Arts budget by 40 percent. (The NEA is the single largest national source of arts education funding). These cuts are so severe that today 70 percent of all public school music budgets come from outside funds.

Fine Arts department chair Mr. Wade Dowdy agrees that it's astonishing how much art's importance has declined in our culture. "It's now been relegated to extra-curricular activities," Mr. Dowdy said. As of now, funds for West's Fine Arts Department are not be-

ing cut. Maybe that's because there's nothing to cut.

Over the past 12 years, the Fine Arts Booster Club, an outside group of parents, has raised over \$165,000 in support of the program. That would not be needed if funds were pouring in from inside sources. When was the last time you saw the football team selling Christmas wrapping paper in order to get new helmets?

Thankfully, others feel the need to do something about this. Various musicians are holding benefit concerts along with VH 1's Save the Music ad campaign where \$100,000 worth of music supplies will be donated to schools. These actions, along with the continuation of local pledges and fundraisers are crucial for music to survive in our schools. A culture with no education in art, is in my opinion, not a culture.

May 16, 1997

Edited by Tiffany Whitaker

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DAVID GRINDON

## Hazelwood Cops Watch Howdershell

by Bob Sherron

If you are a student at Hazelwood West, you spend a good chunk of your drive time on Howdershell. And if you drive a lot, you must notice all the police activity between the school and Gateway Evangelical College. If you haven't noticed the cops sitting in nearly every parking lot, you're tempting fate (or at least the Hazelwood Police Department) to give you a speeding ticket.

Just like spring flowers, the Hazelwood police are back in full force, and this time, they mean business.

"We get a lot of complaints about the volume and speed of traffic on Howdershell," said Officer Ray White.

"The increase in police activity is to prevent accidents and the radar is to slow down motorists," he said. "There are three schools within a mile of each other on Howdershell and we want to keep the speed down."

While this all sounds like a good idea, it doesn't do a whole lot for the recurring traffic problems that plague Howdershell. The 30 miles per hour speed limit that is in effect for most of the distance between 270 and Riverwood Estates seems a little low for a four lane road with a turn lane in the middle, especially for the unusually high volume of traffic that goes by every day.

Perhaps what needs to be done is to raise the speed limit to 40 miles per hour, but make school zones with a lower speed limit so the children are safe. Then the Hazelwood Police would only be sitting around the schools, where they need to be, instead of in their favorite hiding places. Circus Video, the three churches nearby, and the little sides streets aren't the areas we need to be most concerned with when it comes to keeping kids safe. The areas around the elementary schools are the major places of concern.

Maybe, instead of making travel difficult, the Hazelwood Police Department could not only keep the roads safe, but also let you get from point A to point B quickly and easily.

been held on Fridays. Instead of all the crabbing two weeks before Prom next year, talk to Dr. Spalding this year and let her know how you feel about Prom being held on Friday or Saturday next year.

Whether your gripes are the same as ours or not, your opinion is important. Don't sit back and let

MY VIEW...

## Controversy Spoils Student's Campaign

by Alicia Strausbaugh

Recently, a student at St. Charles High School was booted out of the student council election. Sophomore Adam Henery was running for junior class president when the administration removed him from the ballot because he had passed out condoms with stickers attached that read, "The Safe Choice," his campaign slogan.

St. Charles High principal Dr. Jerry Cook said, "There is a district code of conduct that bans disruptive material and distribution of hate or pornographic literature."

So Adam was removed from the election because, according to vice-principal Mr. David Watson, "...a student handing out condoms was not a far cry from a student bringing Playboy into school." He equated both actions to being "pornographic."

Adam stated that he only gave the items to a select group of students who specifically requested them, not to the entire junior class that day.

If anything, Adam was promoting safe sex, a subject that, with today's growing numbers of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, should be

the world run you over. Stand up for your opinions and you will be surprised what you can change. Actions speak louder than words. Take your opinion down to the Gazette Box in the hall across from the attendance office and stuff that baby full. Nothing can be changed if no one is willing to voice their opinion.

encouraged.

If the school was concerned that handing out such items would encourage students to have sex, they should realize that most kids are going to do it if they want anyway. Receiving a birth control device won't make them run out and use it.

What's most confusing about this issue is that Adam may not be able to run for student council next year because of this. A student with good grades and with a clean record should not be continuously punished for a one-time incident that the administrators did not like.

This kind of blind justice is what makes a school seem more like a prison than a place of learning.

Instead of focusing on more important issues, the school punishes one student for being "disruptive." Instead they should concentrate on the students who cut school or cheat through hard classes every day.

Adam may have done something without thinking through the consequences, but that's no reason to keep him ineligible for student elections for the rest of his high school career.

# Sweet & Sour

by Melinda Hake & Amber Hasenstab

18 days till Graduation  
Senior Activity Day

The new movie theater off  
Olive with the new love seats  
Those who go to tanning  
salons  
Spring and the nice weather

Everyone having a good  
time at Prom  
Blues not coming in last  
place in the playoffs

That's 117 hours away  
It's only for seniors; what  
about the underclassman  
Why is everything cool so  
far away?  
Don't you people know  
when to stop?  
Birds pooping on your  
newly washed car  
To those who didn't go  
to Prom  
They are now out of  
the playoffs

## The West Gazette

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## Haverly Graduates with Class Of 97

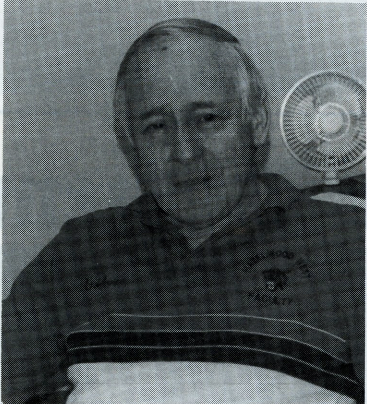
by Kendel Coppedge & Jason Dennis

June 13 is not only the end of the school year for West students, it is also counselor Mr. Jim Haverly's last day on the job. Mr. Haverly said it was time to retire after spending 26 years here at West.

Mr. Haverly started here in the fall of 1971 when it was still Howdershell Junior High. The seventh, eighth, and ninth grades had 2400 students enrolled, the same as the junior and senior high now.

Mr. Haverly said the 70s were the toughest, because of the heavy drug use among teenagers. He said, "Kids today are more responsible and respectful." Mr. Haverly is not only a counselor,

he was a superhero. He spent a year at Hazelwood Central, and said he "saved the school from fire, famine, and flood." He put out a



**Road to Recovery...**Mr. Jim Haverly prepares for relaxation after his 26 years of service on the West Guidance Staff. Photo by Mike Erickson

fire in a classroom, sponsored a group that sold candy bars, and turned off the water before a faulty water hose flooded the cafeteria.

Mr. Haverly said he will miss the kids and faculty the most. "I work with a professional, dedicated staff that are easy to get along with," he said. When asked what he will take with him when he leaves, he said, "Knowing you helped someone try to achieve their goals and seeing them succeed is the best feeling."

Other students and colleagues of Mr. Haverly will miss him. Senior Jill Brocksmith said, "Nobody

can replace Mr. Haverly and I'm glad he's graduating with the Class of '97"

Mr. Haverly also gave his fellow staff advice when they were in need of it. "Whenever I would start to become overly anxious about one of our many duties, Jim would smile, offer an anecdote and share his famous philosophy of 'don't sweat the small stuff,'" said fellow counselor Mrs. Kim Potts.

Because of his hard work and dedication to students and staff here at West, Mr. Haverly has been named the St. Louis Secondary School Counselor of the Year.

## Survival Kit Offers Senioritis Remedy

by Matt Anderson & Jamie Gittemeier

No more pencils, no more books, no more teacher's dirty looks, and the seniors go marching along. The seniors will be singing as they say goodbye to the halls of Hazelwood West. Until then, what will this class need to survive? This Senior Survival Kit will help those who haven't a clue.

Show me the money is the phrase seniors are saying when it comes down to what they need most to survive. No matter what a senior wants to do, the odds are that money is going to be spent. "You need money so that you can go out and have fun," said Derrick Taylor.

Money isn't everything. There are other necessities. "I can't get

enough sleep," said Kelly McCullough. Kim Morrissey said, "You need a big bottle of Tylenol and a nap."

Many of the seniors just want to get through the last days according to Bill Wukitsch who says he is suffering Senioritis. Not only do they want to survive their last days, but ironically, they want more days off too. Jesse Robertson says he needs an excused absence note from mom.

Will the Class of '97 survive? No one knows. It's a case of only the strongest surviving. One thing's for certain, the class will leave behind memories of mooching money, sleeping in class, and turning in assignments late.

by Amy Schulte

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)Fun, sun, and excitement are holding your hand in May. Take the chance. Lucky Color: sunshine yellow  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)You will be filled with tons of energy. Everything will be going so well, your feet will barely touch the ground. Lucky Color: energizing lime green  
**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)You'll be where you belong—in the middle of the spotlight. Love and success are waiting for you. Lucky Color: sparkling gold  
**LEO** (July 23-August 22)Too much school work will make you stress. Get the work finished, then take a break. Lucky Color: fire engine red  
**VIRGO** (August 23-September 22)You will be feeling extra generous. Pick a flower and give it to someone to brighten up their day. Lucky Color: dazzling silver  
**LIBRA**(September 23-October 22)A major compliment will pump you up. You will be more reflective and will decide to start a journal. Lucky Color: fuzzy peach  
**SCORPIO** (October 23-November 21) Maintain an open mind so you can learn new ways of looking at people. Lucky Color: outrageous strawberry  
**SAGITTARIUS**(November 22-December 20) The more original your ideas are the greater the chance to move up and the better your attitude. Lucky Color: plum purple  
**CAPRICORN**(December 21- January 19) Someone special spends time with you. Cherish the time you two spend together. Lucky Color: mother of pearl  
**AQUARIUS** (January 20-February 18) Your study habits are on a real upswing. Alternative thinking will lead to a summer option that makes everyone else green with envy. Lucky Color: green  
**PISCES** (February 19-March 19)The days seem to be flying by, but don't let time slip away too much or you may regret it. Lucky Color: tangerine orange  
**ARIES** (March 20-April 19)Your tight grip on a certain friendship may need to relax in coming weeks if you want it to survive. Take a different road for a couple of days. Lucky Color: midnight blue

## Beanie Baby Craze Takes Nation By Storm

by Pat Conner

Remember Tickle Me Elmo, Mighty Morphin Power Rangers, and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles? These have all been crazes from the past. Now, the latest is Beanie Babies.

Would you believe people throughout the country would pay as much as \$300 for certain Beanie Babies? The toys are only worth money if they are in good condition with the tag still attached. A few of the more valuable toys are a snake, a stingray, and a tie dye bear named after Jerry Garcia. Even though these toys have been popular in other parts of the country for a while,

they have just caught on here recently. "I like Beanie Babies because they are so cute. My favorite is the Platypus," said freshman Melissa Johnson.

Around St. Louis, most stores are sold out of Beanie Babies which drives the prices up even more. Some stores are limiting people to buying only 3 at a time. On the Internet, there are web pages dedicated to the purchase and sales of these toys.

Even though some people could care less about Beanie Babies, others think they are the cutest thing. It shows because of the value and availability of the toys.

## Shed The Winter Pounds; Summer Is On The Way

by Amanda Feldhaus

No shirts and bikini weather will be here before you can say, "Pass the sunscreen." Several of us, OK, most of us are not even close to being in shape for the summer. We still have a month of school left, so get going and lose that extra flab before you are seen in your summer wardrobe.

There are several activities you can do to tighten and firm your body's weak spots. Rollerblading burns many calories, biking helps trim and firm your legs, and swimming keeps arms in shape. If you're a school athlete, you can work out in the weight room after school or pay a fee to work out here all summer.

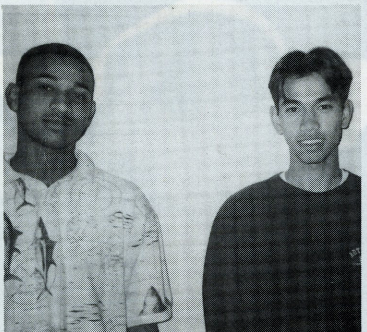
There are several traps that can stop you from losing weight. If you are on certain types of medication, it can cause weight gain or alter your metabolism. Alcohol slows down your metabolism by 30 percent. The fat is not burned and goes straight to your midsection. Stress is another trap. Stress can lead to overeating and can be brought on by anything.

Eating right and exercising are key elements to looking good and being healthy. Getting in shape only takes a little motivation, so get out there and shed the winter pounds.

## A Touch of Culture..... International Students Liven Classes At West

by Junyi Ji

Only about one month of school is left, and all the seniors can't wait to get out of here. The foreign exchange students will be out of here too but



**Quick Study...**West students Melesew Bogale and Koson Tuankruea have the challenge of learning with English as a second language. Photo by Jason Moyers

instead of party-filled summers, they will go back to their own country to continue their studies.

Foreign exchange student Gudrun Runarsdottir from Iceland has been here in America for about ten months now. She is doing well in school, with a GPA for the first semester of 4.0 and a 3.8 for the third quarter.

"American school is much easier than my old school but much bigger," she said. Gudrun commented that her most difficult class is Biochemistry since she had very limited chemistry study back in Iceland.

Alejanoro Gonzalez, from Mexico, is another foreign ex-

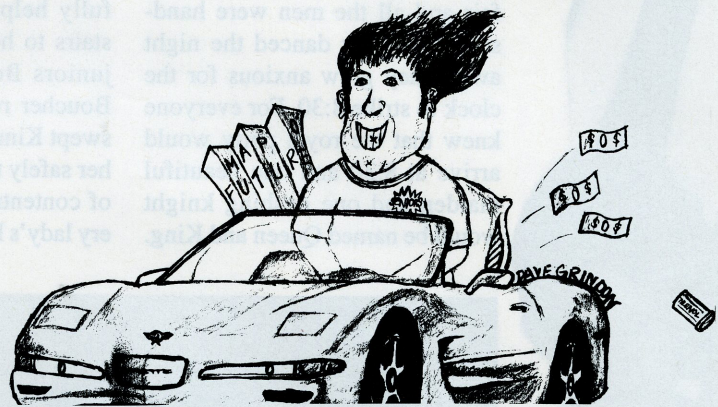
change student at West. "I learned a lot of English during these past months," said Alejanoro. His grades are also good, a 3.5 for the semester and a 3.2 for the third quarter.

Not all of the foreign students here are part of the exchange program. Sophomore Melesew Bogale is one. He is from Ethiopia, East Africa. Melesew has been here for two years now. He had one year of English when he was in Ethiopia. When Melesew first came here the language was very hard. But now he is making a 3.3 GPA and he is also a member of Varsity Wrestling Team. "It's not easy to get good grades so I work

hard," said Melesew.

Senior Koson Tuankruea came from Thailand three years ago. He is totally Americanized. "I like American classic cars with big engines," said Koson. "But the school lunch isn't that great." In his spare time Koson likes to play soccer.

Although the foreign students may not speak the best English, they may have some interesting stories to tell from the other side of the earth. Each of them came here with an American dream in their mind and are willing to work hard for it. As Alejanoro said, "As long as you have friends you will be all right."



**A Ride on the Wild Side...**Seniors struggle to keep up with the the last few activities of their high school career. Picture by Dave Grindon





Knights and Maidens

## A Fairy Tale To Remember



And the winner is... Prom Court '97 (FRONT) Kristin Dowdy, Andrew Ryan, (SECOND ROW) juniors Christina Storey, Dana Hackworth, Katrina Rudar, Queen Kim Boucher, King Bob Madigan, seniors Angie McGovern, Anne Wilmas, junior Jackie Mattingly; (BACK) juniors Brian Pierce, Delvin Walls, Terry Brennan, seniors Retiring Queen Brandy DeRouen, Retiring King Tom O'Brien, Garry Garrison, Frank Taylor, and junior Vince Chandler. *photo by Casey Henrichs*

by Heidi Seymour

Once upon a time in a not so far away land, there was an enchanted ball. All the ladies were fair and all the men were handsome. As they danced the night away, they grew anxious for the clock to strike 8:30. For everyone knew that the royal party would arrive at 8:30 and one beautiful maiden and one dashing knight would be named Queen and King.

A hush fell over the ballroom as the clock struck 8:30 and the royalty entered. Each knight dutifully helped his maiden up the stairs to her rightful spot. When juniors Bob Madigan and Kim Boucher reached the stairs, Bob swept Kim off her feet and carried her safely to the top. A gentle sigh of contentment escaped from every lady's lips, and the men smiled

their approval at the display of chivalry.

The guests were silent again as Bob and Kim were named King and Queen. The crowd showed their approval of them once again. The newly crowned King and Queen swirled around the dance floor to the music of "Unforgettable."

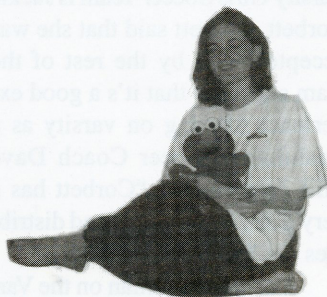
Although Queen Kim and

King Bob were pleasantly surprised and very excited, Bob said, "The best part of being King and Queen is that we're really good friends, so it was fun to share the moment."

The night was "Unforgettable" for all who went and a real dream come true for Kim and Bob. It was so perfect, it was almost like a fairy tale.







## Quotable Quotes

"Ooh, I like your dress. You look like a big ying-yang."

Sophomore  
Darryl Calmese

"That is such a 'Wonder Years' moment."

Freshman Jon Hamilton  
during senior Susan Gilbert's  
dance with  
sophomore Chris Pingel.

"I lost my nail. Do you have a flashlight? I have to find it!"

Junior Kim Carpenter to a  
waitress at dinner

"What? Is this in French or something?"

Junior Terry Brennan  
about the menu at  
Charlie Gitto's Restaurant

"At dinner I ate a peasant!"

Senior Susan Gilbert

"What Prom is tonight?"

Senior Erin Oliver's boy-  
friend Greg Paulson when  
she called at 5:45 p.m.

## Prom Looks—Daring and Dashing

by Christie Johnson & Mindy Johnston

The "Bold and the Beautiful." We saw both of them at Prom this year.

One of our favorite bold couples would have to be senior Dina Wilson and junior Jimmy Bensen. The couple was dressed in a "gangster" motif. Dina had on a flapper dress and Jimmy had a pin-striped suit. Dina said, "Jimmy liked the idea this year. It was a lot cheaper than last year and a lot more comfortable. At least no one had the same dress."

"Cinderella" dresses were

coming back this year, or so a lot of people thought. Junior Jenny Maas made her entrance with a full turquoise dress. Jenny said that she picked this dress because she decided she was going to wear it seven years ago. Her sister wore the dress to her junior prom in 1990, and Jenny followed in her footsteps to make the night special.

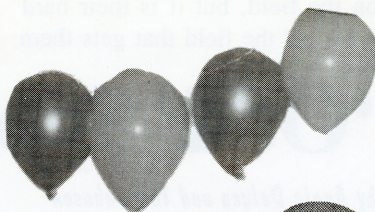
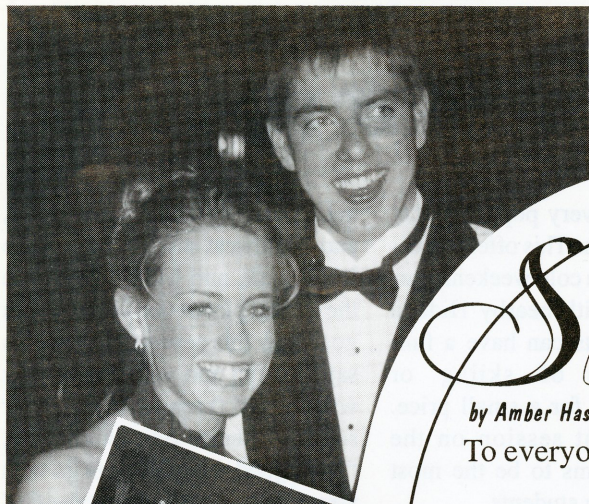
Beautiful pastel dresses were big at this year's dance. It was a good way to kick off the new spring fashion season and a great way to get around the old standby,

black and white dresses.

The guys at Prom looked very tantalizing. The most fashionable in our eyes were the guys with the fancy coats and colorful vests.

Senior Steve Pendleton looked exceptionally good in a black tux with white lapels and a matching silver and black vest. It matched perfectly with his date Christy Hannekan's white dress.

All the time and money spent preparing for the night made the fashions at Prom this year truly "Unforgettable."



## Sweet & Sour

by Amber Hasenstab & Tanya Miller

To everyone dressing up and looking good

To Prom being at Holiday Inn

To the final dance for the class of 1997

To Bob Madigan carrying Kim Boucher  
up the stairs to the throne

To the girls who got their hair done

To people who get out on the dance floor  
and don't care what they look like

To the girls getting carnations when  
they walked in the door

To those who wore tennis shoes with  
their tuxes

To the dance floor being too small

Why was it to "Shout"?

Why can't all guys be that great?

To the hours getting the hairspray and  
bobbypins out

To people who laugh at them

The flowers all died as the night  
went on





# Sports

May 16, 1997

Edited by Pete Pagano

## Freshmen Work Hard For Spot, Try to Excel on Highest Level

by Steve Andreski and Mike Ritter

Making a varsity athletic team is a great accomplishment, but making that team as a freshman is an honor. To be successful at any level it takes hard work and determination. When a younger athlete shows promise as a freshman, he or she may be given the opportunity to compete on a higher level.

When that person is promoted to that higher level, they are being rewarded for their hard work. And they are also handed a great opportunity to compete at a more advanced level while developing their skills as they mature through the high school years.

Not many athletes are given this chance, and the ones that do may or may not relish the opportunity. But for the most part, these

talented West athletes have accepted their challenge and run with it.

"Being able to play varsity all four seasons has helped me experience the game at a more advanced level for a longer time," said senior golfer Colin Hall.

Senior Lynn Hollenberg has also played a varsity sport since her freshman year. She has stood out on the soccer field since she was six years old. "I started playing because my older brother played so I wanted to play against him," said Hollenberg.

This spring, several freshmen are turning heads while competing on the varsity level. One of these freshmen is Montez Pride, a member of the Boys Varsity Track Team. Pride has worked

so hard that he has tied a school record in the 100 meter dash with a time of 11.4 seconds. Pride said that he's happy running varsity because he likes the competition, and Pride is up to the challenge.

One of the freshmen on the Varsity Girls Soccer Team is Jackie Corbett. Corbett said that she was accepted well by the rest of the team and feels that it's a good experience starting on varsity as a freshman. Soccer Coach Dave Ellis commented, "Corbett has a very good outside shot and distributes the ball well."

Another freshman on the Varsity Girls Soccer Team is Courtney Coppedge. "I was pretty intimidated because I didn't know everybody, but as the season progressed I started to feel more comfortable," said Coppedge. Coach Ellis commented on Coppedge saying, "Coppedge is a high scorer and does many different things for the team. Coppedge brings a lot of enthusiasm to the team, and makes good decisions in front of the net."

This was freshman Mike Mayberry's first year playing varsity, and he has done it with two sports, soccer and volleyball. "It was my goal at the beginning of tryouts to make the varsity squad in both sports," said Mayberry.

Making the varsity team as a freshman takes a lot of work on the field, but it is their hard work off the field that gets them there.

## Woods Wins Masters

by Garry Garrison

Tiger Woods did what every golfer dreams of doing. He won the Masters, a very prestigious golf tournament in which a green jacket is given to the winner. The green jacket is the most coveted prize in golf.

At age 21, Woods is the youngest person ever to win the tournament. He surprised a lot of people as he finished the 18th hole with a score of 69. Senior golfer John Siesner, among others, didn't expect someone so young to be the champion.

"I was very stunned to see him win," said Siesner.

Woods' total of 18-under par and 12-stroke margin of victory was a tournament record. For a tournament that offers a lot of pressure, he showed no signs of cracking.

Golf Coach Dan Boudria was very surprised to see Woods play that great under pressure.

"I didn't think he could play that kind of caliber of golf," Coach

Boudria.

Woods was the first golfer of African-American descent to win the Masters. This event didn't even invite its first black participant until 1975. His victory came only two days shy of 50 years after Jackie Robinson became the first black person to play major league baseball. The media made it a point to mention facts like these. Senior golfer Bob Sherron felt they talked about Woods being black more than about him winning. He thinks they should have talked more about him being the champion of the Masters.

"He's a great golfer, but people shouldn't focus on the race issue so much," said Sherron.

Some consider Woods to be the greatest golfer ever. Others, like senior golfer Pat Conner, feel he has a lot more to prove.

"He's got a lot of skill, but to be considered the greatest, he's going to have to win some more tournaments," said Conner.

## Rams Set the 'Pace'

by Jason Schriek

On April 19 and 20, representatives from the 30 National Football League (NFL) clubs with their general managers, coaches, and scouts took part in the 62nd NFL draft at Madison Square Gardens in New York City.

The St. Louis Rams came away with one of their better drafts in years. President and coach Dick Vermeil went into the draft looking for a top-notch cornerback to pair up with Todd Lyght, a wide receiver to back up Isaac Bruce and Eddie Kennison, and some defensive and offensive lineman to help overcome the loss of Sean Gilbert. They got everything but the wide receiver.

Vermeil was determined to draft Orlando Pace from Ohio State, the Consensus All-American for the second straight year and made football history by becom-

ing the first player to win two consecutive Lombardi Awards, as their first round pick in the 62nd NFL draft. It was the first time since 1963 that the Rams had the first round pick in the NFL draft.

In the second round, the Rams selected cornerback Dexter McCleon out of Clemson. McCleon was a second-team All-ACC pick in 1996 and is a big addition to the Rams pass coverage.

The Rams' other picks include center Ryan Tucker of Texas Christian in the fourth round, defensive back Taje Allen out of Texas in the fifth round, linebacker Muadianvita Kazadi from Tulsa in the sixth, and seventh rounder defensive end Cedric White of North Carolina A & T.

The 62nd NFL draft was just a warm-up for the 1997 season that is on its way

# ATHLETES 6 of the Issue

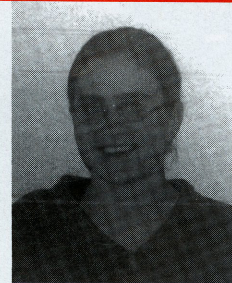


Photo by Bo Norris

Having never been on a school swim team, foreign exchange student Gudrun Runarsdottir is making waves on the girls swim team. She has qualified for state in five events, plus relays. With the help of Runarsdottir, the team has competed well. The future goal for this reliable swimmer is to do well in state competition.

by Clayton Beine



Photo by Bo Norris

"I just want to do the best I can for the team," said freshman varsity girls soccer player Courtney Coppedge.

Outside of school, Coppedge plays soccer on the Olympic Development Regional Team.

Teammate senior Jackie Binder says, "She is doing very well as a young player. Her ability to score has helped us out a lot."

by Dan Thacker

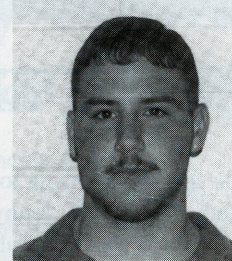


Photo by Mike Erickson

Ever since his sophomore year, senior Tony Damico has had a place on the varsity baseball team. "Damico will be a key player for us this season, both on the mound and at the plate," said pitching coach Mr. Jack Scanio. Teammate Damon Burkhart agrees saying, "We'll need Tony in clutch situations."

Due to his baseball ability, he has been offered a baseball scholarship to St. Charles Community College.

by Brian Bealler

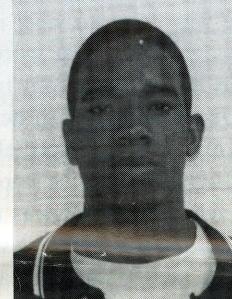


Photo by Mike Erickson

"I hope to win conference this year," said junior Le'Von Davis. Davis is a three year member of the Boys Varsity Tennis Team.

Davis' idol is Andre Aggasi, because he is aggressive and is always on the attack. "I always like to play on the attack like Aggasi," he said.

When he is not on the court, Davis is shooting hoops or marching in the West Marching Band.

by Jackie Binder

## 'Odd' Sports Popular at West

by Angie Deluca and Tom Johnson

Do you or does someone you know play an unusual sport? Believe it or not, many West students play interesting and unusual sports. An estimated 40 percent of West students play some kind of unusual sport.

Many students find themselves participating in thrill sports. Students take on these more dangerous sports because they want a bigger thrill. Some of these sports are skydiving, bungee jumping, skiing, and snowboarding.

Bungee jumping is a new unusual sport that many students find interesting. Whether it is from a tower or off of a bridge, many students find this exhilarating. Senior Kara Gentry went bungee jumping in a bungee chair over spring break. After being launched up over 200 feet into the air, Gentry said, "I screamed the whole time, but it was fun."

Skydiving is another thrill sport that many older students enjoy. Senior Ryan Oakes took the plunge two summers ago with his brother in San Diego, jumping from 20,000 feet.

"It was an ultimate rush until I started getting close to the ground and the fear kicked in," Oakes said.

Snowboarding and skiing

have become very popular lately among students. This offers something to do on a cold weekend during winter. With nearby Hidden Valley, students can have a fun-filled night of skiing or snowboarding for a small price. The overnight session on the weekends seems to be the most popular among students.

Senior Sahn Troung is a competitive kick boxer. He said, "It is a lot like boxing, but shins, knees, feet, and elbows are legal to hit with." He also says he likes to compete because "it is a new challenge every time that you face a new opponent."

Senior Glenn Denison has been a kick boxer for 7 years. He said, "It's fun, and I like to compete against people just to see how good I am." These almost brutal sports interest students who like to challenge themselves.

Oakes travels to California for six weeks out of the year to go surfing. Water sports such as water skiing, and scuba diving are also popular. Many students say that they like to go skiing at the lake of the Ozarks.

The new sport of disc golf is popular among students. Disc golf is like regular golf only with a frisbee or disc. You start at a tee, and throw the disc toward a bas-

ket. There are 18 different holes, and the lowest score wins. White Birch park, and Creve Coeur are the closest places that students can go to play this new sport. Students say it is fun and you can go play with your friends right after school. Senior Ben Skurat said, "It is a good time. You can go with your friends and have fun outside." Senior Tim Farrar also plays. He said he plays because "it's fun, cheap entertainment."

Bowling and billiards are also sports that many West students play. Senior Colin Hall said, "It is fun to play pool on the weekends at night when there is nothing else to do." These sports are often played on the weekends, as students can easily drive to the bowling alley or pool hall to have fun.

Paintball is a sport that involves quickness, avoidance, and accuracy. The adrenaline is one reason that many students say they play. Weekend games of paintball leave small welts, but it is worth the pain to many.

These sports are interesting, unusual, and the reason that many students at West are unique. Many students participate in them in spite of their cost in time and money. The thrill, the challenge, and competition and the fun seem to make it all worthwhile.